

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 10073 080150Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ADP-00 USIA-15 /027 W

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R 080123Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5866

UNCLAS TOKYO 10073

FOR CU/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, JA

SUBJ: LINCOLN CENTER CHORAL FESTIVAL - JAMES BJORGE

1. JAMES BJORGE, DIRECTOR LINCOLN CENTER INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL, HAS WRITTEN TO POST AND OSAKA BPAO, ENCLOSING SCHEDULES FOR SEPTEMBER 14-20 VISIT TO JAPAN. HIS STATED PURPOSE IS TO MEET CHORUSES AND OTHERS IN PREPARATION FOR CENTER'S FOURTH FESTIVAL NEXT YEAR AND TO DISCUSS CENTER'S PROPOSED WORLD-WIDE PROGRAM OF EXCHNAGE IN ALL PERFORMING ARTS. (COPIES OF SCHEDULE AND PROGRAM OUTLINE WERE SENT TO CU/EA.) BJORGE'S JULY 25 LETTER SAYS HE ARRIVING AS STAG AND MENTIONS THAT POST HAS "RESPONSIBILITY" FOR MAKING HIS ARRANGEMENTS IN JAPAN, INCLUDING APPOINTMENTS WITH SEVEN CHORAL GROUPS, NHK, AND OTHERS. ALSO HE ASKS POST TO PROVIDE ESCORT-INTERPRETER AND TO ARRANGE AUDITIONS, FILM SHOWINGS OF THIRD LINCOLN CENTER CHORAL FESTIVAL, AND TRANSPORTATION, FOR WHICH HE WILL REIMBURSE POST "IF APPROPRIATE." IN ADDITION, HE SUGGESTS POST MAY WISH TO PROGRAM HIM WITH SLIDES AND TAPE RECORDING.

2. POST FIRST LEARNED OF PROPOSED VISIT WHEN FORMER TOKYO BPAO FORWARDED BJORGE'S CORRESPONDENCE WHICH HE HAD RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON AFTER FINISHING HIS TOKYO ASSIGNMENT. POST WROTE BJORGE'S OFFICE JUNE 28 EXPLAINING IT DID NOT HAVE DETAILS OF HIS VISIT AND STATING OUR ASSUMPTION HE WAS IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH JAPANESE

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GROUPS.

3. POST NOT INTERESTED IN PROGRAMMING BJORGE SINCE OUR EMPHASIS ON MOST CURRENT CREATIVE ARTS WITH PARTICULAR STRESS ON VISUAL ARTS AND NOT ON CHORALE GROUPS OR FINANCING OF PERFORMING ARTS. WOULD PREFER SIGNIFICANTLY LIMIT FACILITATION SINCE WE ARE CRITICALLY SHORT OF ESCORT-INTERPRETERS. SUGGEST BJORGE ASK JAPANESE CONTACTS TO ARRANGE SCHEDULE IN DETAIL. (HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH PROFESSOR YUICHI YUICHIRO HAYASHI OF KWANSEI GAKUIN GLEE CLUB.)

4. REQUEST CLARIFICATION BJORGE'S STATUS. REQUEST FURTHER THAT CU EXPLAIN POST'S POSITION RE PROGRAMMING AND FACILITATION. IF BJORGE WISHES ARRANGE FILM SCREENINGS, POST WILLING MAKE AVAILABLE CONFERENCE-SCREENING ROOM AT EMBASSY ANNEX.
SHOESMITH

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